



# FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

On the cover (left to right):  
Officers Brian Nieto, Daniel Messick and Trevor Shipman.  
See articles on pages 6 and 7.

# FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT



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## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR ALAN AUTRY

I am extremely proud to say that the City of Fresno is home to the finest police department in the nation.

The Fresno Police Department has seen great successes during this past year. The Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative was created to bring together the intervention, prevention and suppression of gangs in our city into one collaborative program overseen by the Fresno Police Department. In an effort to more efficiently attack the graffiti that plagues our city, the Graffiti Abatement Unit was moved to the Police Department to form a more comprehensive unit of abatement and enforcement, and the program has seen great successes.

Our Police Department has continued its vigilance in removing criminals from the streets by cracking down on gangs, with a special focus on Bulldog gang members. In addition, the Department's continued commitment to traffic safety has resulted in fewer collisions and safer streets within the City of Fresno.

The Fresno Police Department and the City of Fresno still have a long and difficult road ahead to make our city safer for its citizens. With unrelenting dedication and determination, our city will continue to become a safer place to live. I know members of the Fresno Police Department will never waver in their determination and service to the community.

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✓  
*"Our Police  
Department has  
continued its vigilance  
in removing criminals  
from the streets ..."*

— Mayor Alan Autry

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alan Autry".

Alan Autry  
Mayor



## CITY OF FRESNO

# VISION VALUES

A culture of excellence where people get the best every day.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** We take responsibility for our actions.

**COMPASSION:** We care about and respect people.

**TRUST:** We believe in one another.

**INNOVATION:** We seek new and creative ways to improve our business.

**TEAMWORK:** We work together to achieve our vision.



# OBJECTIVES

Customer Satisfaction.

Employee Satisfaction.

Financial Management.

## FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT

### VISION

We are a model law enforcement agency, nationally accredited and viewed internally and externally as professional, enthusiastic and trustworthy. We reward our employees for creativity, hard work and being responsive to the needs of our community. We treat our employees with respect, continually meeting their needs. We operate with fiscal prudence as we effectively manage our resources, while providing the highest level of service and protection to our citizens.

### MISSION

Our mission is to provide a professional, effective and timely response to crime and disorder, and to enhance traffic safety in our community.



## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF JERRY DYER

**This has been a difficult, yet rewarding year for the Fresno Police Department.** Three of “Fresno’s Finest” were gunned down in two separate incidents; however, due to their bravery, strong will, and God’s protective hand, all three of these officers survived. During these challenging times, members of the Fresno Police Department and the community demonstrated their love and support for the officers and their families. This show of compassion will never be forgotten.

Once again Fresno saw a decrease in crime, resulting in a 35-year low in the crime index. Violent crime decreased by 9.5% and property crime decreased by 8.2%, as compared to 2005. Although these decreases bring a great deal of satisfaction to us as an organization, we will never be completely satisfied as long as one person remains victimized.

This past year, the Department again received both state and national recognition for our traffic safety efforts, and traffic collisions declined for the fifth consecutive year. Since 2002, fifty-three fewer families have had to bury a loved one due to a traffic collision. The Department’s ongoing efforts in the area of DUI enforcement also generated national media attention, resulting in front-page-coverage in USA Today and a feature story on NBC Nightly News, titled “What Works.”

I hope that you will find this annual report to be informative and rewarding as you gain insight into the challenges and accomplishments of your police department. Thank you for your continued support and trust in our agency.

God bless,



Jerry P. Dyer  
Chief of Police



*“We can take satisfaction  
in the progress we’ve  
made, but we can  
never be satisfied.”*

— Jerry Dyer, discussing crime,  
response times and traffic safety



# NO ROUTINE TRAFFIC STOP



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∨

*“...Officer Brian Nieto  
was gunned down in  
the line of duty while  
attempting to make  
a traffic stop ...”*

“Routine traffic stop” is a term you will often hear in the media anytime an officer pulls a motorist over. Any police officer will tell you there is no routine traffic stop. Officer Brian Nieto will tell you that one attempted traffic stop was life-changing.

On July 31, 2006, Officer **Brian Nieto** attempted to pull over a vehicle in Central Fresno. Instead of stopping, the driver, later identified as Joaquin Figueroa, intentionally maneuvered his vehicle, positioned himself next to Officer Nieto and fired several shots.

Officer Nieto was shot three times and critically wounded. In fact, when he arrived at University Medical Center, doctors told family, friends, Chief Dyer and dozens of officers who came to the hospital that Brian might not survive the night.

Officer Nieto spent the next 31 days in the Intensive Care Unit. Nieto endured seven surgeries and day-after-day, family members kept a round-the-clock vigil in the hospital parking lot, dubbed “Camp Nieto.”

While Officer Nieto slowly began his recovery, the Fresno Police quickly launched the largest manhunt in Department history. Four days into the operation, Joaquin Figueroa was spotted along with his sister riding in a car driven by their aunt. As officers moved in closer, the car drove recklessly through a heavily populated residential neighborhood in Southeast Fresno. Minutes later, Figueroa bolted out of the car and attempted to run away, but was immediately confronted by plain-clothes officers. Figueroa refused to comply with repeated commands to show his hands and was fatally shot.

Months after the shooting, Officer Nieto continues to deal with nerve damage in his left foot. Nieto attends physical therapy several times a month and has never lost the desire to return to the job he loves.

“At first I was scared to go back, but I miss the officers, I miss the job, I miss helping people,” Officer Nieto said. “One thing I learned from all of this is to really appreciate life and not to be afraid to tell people ‘I love you, I appreciate you.’” The citizens of Fresno and the members of the Police Department feel the same way.





# OFFICERS AMBUSHED

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 √  
*"...when the officers  
 walked inside  
 the courtyard,  
 Lunsford unleashed  
 a barrage of gunfire  
 from behind."*

On Thursday, October 19th at 3:28 am, 25-year-old James Lunsford called 911, asking officers to come to his townhouse in Northwest Fresno to help his boyfriend, whom he said was suicidal and using drugs. When Officers **Daniel Messick** (left) and **Trevor Shipman** (right) arrived, Lunsford greeted them from his balcony and said he was afraid of his boyfriend who was downstairs. He tossed the officers the keys to the security gate and front door, but when the officers unlocked the gate and walked into the courtyard, Lunsford unleashed a barrage of gunfire from behind.

Officer Messick was shot in his leg. Officer Shipman, who was wearing a ballistic vest, sustained gunshot injuries to his back, forearm, leg and foot. Both officers made a tactical retreat and had the presence of mind to continue to set a perimeter while waiting for help to arrive. At 3:55 am, Lunsford called 911 again and told a dispatcher that he had "hurt" a police officer. He then fired more than 20 rounds at officers, despite repeated pleas by the dispatcher to stop firing.

Three neighbors also called police, saying they were trapped in adjacent townhouses taking gunfire and feared leaving. Members of the SWAT team transported the three neighbors to safety, none of whom were injured.

Crisis negotiators tried to reach Lunsford by cell phone and a public address system, but he did not respond. Later in the morning, SWAT officers introduced tear gas into the residence, also with no response. SWAT eventually entered the residence and found Lunsford in the upstairs bathroom closet, dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The investigation revealed that Lunsford was alone inside the residence and had lied about having a suicidal boyfriend to lure officers into an ambush. Officers Shipman and Messick have since fully recovered from their gunshot injuries and returned to work, serving the citizens of Fresno.



# A YEAR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



*The Fresno Police  
Department  
was featured  
nationally and  
internationally  
in 2006.*

- Traffic Safety Bureau's DUI efforts were featured on NBC Nightly News, the front page of USA Today and were filmed for Court TV.
- Department's "Video Policing" project.
- Fresno City College Rape case.
- May 1 School Walkouts and Immigration Protest Rally.
- Arrest of a Washington State murder suspect found in Fresno.
- Fresno Police Cadet and former Marine Jarrett Kraft honored with the Navy Cross.
- Near-fatal shooting of Officer Bryan Nieto and manhunt that led to the death of suspect Joaquin Figueroa.
- Drop in crime rates (lowest in 35 years).
- Shootings of Officers Daniel Messick and Trevor Shipman.
- Swearing-in of the Department's First Hmong female police officer, Nancy Vue.
- "Operation Bulldog" launched to eliminate the Bulldog street gang from the City of Fresno.
- Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative.





**Nancy Vue is Fresno PD's first female Hmong officer. Her parents immigrated to the US from Laos in 1980. She became a cadet on November 17, 2003, and graduated from the Fresno Police Academy in June 2006. She writes, "My goal as a police officer is to touch someone's life in a good way. I want to change things, to give [the protection] to others that wasn't given to me and my family while I grew up."**

## ACCREDITATION

The International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives, National Sheriffs Association and Police Executive Research Forum established the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 1979 as an independent accrediting authority. On July 30, 2005, the City of Fresno Police Department became the largest municipality in California to receive national accreditation from CALEA.

Accreditation provides a mechanism and process to assure that the Fresno Police Department meets and continues to maintain the most current "best practices" in the law enforcement field. This is done through a constant internal review of departmental policies, procedures, and practices, as well as audits of every component of the agency.

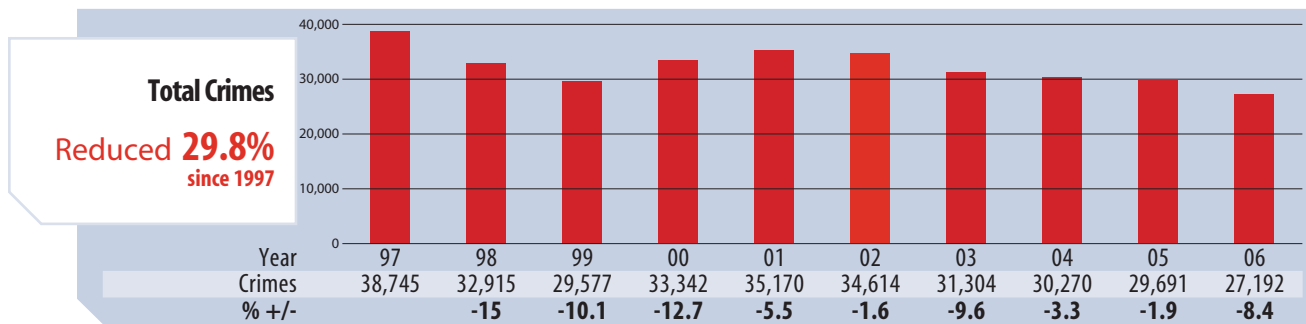
Through this constant self examination, we continue to improve our service to the community. Some other benefits of CALEA include:



- Greater accountability within the agency
- Reduced risk and liability exposure
- Stronger defense against civil lawsuits
- Staunch support from government officials
- Increased community advocacy

Throughout 2006, a team of personnel assigned to the Planning and Research Bureau worked diligently to collect proof that our agency complies with the 448 separate standards that CALEA hold us to. The work will continue through 2007 to assure that we meet the high standards of CALEA and that re-accreditation is achieved in 2008.

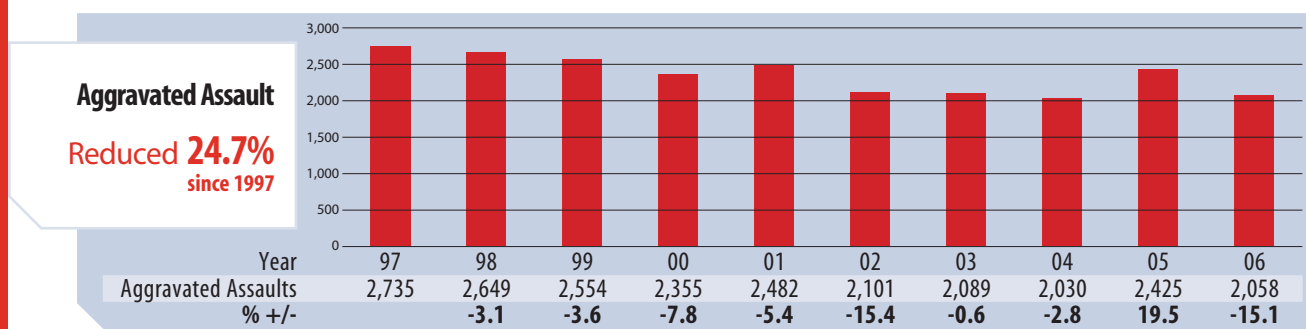
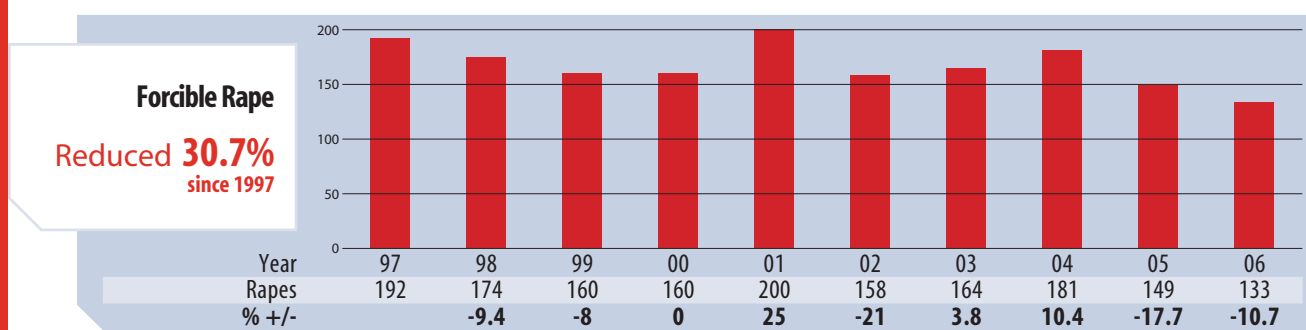
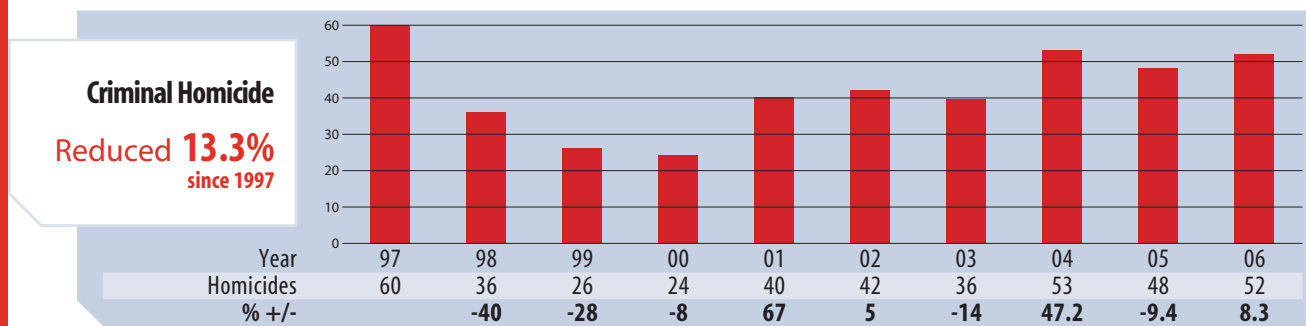




The FBI Crime Index compares crime rate to population.

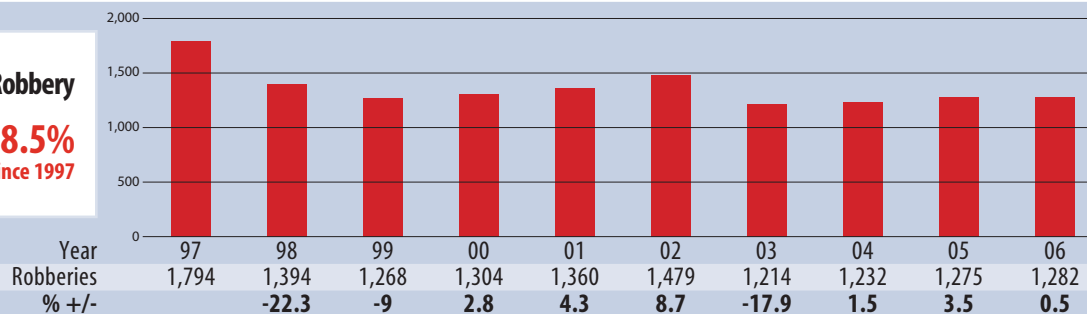
# HISTORIC 35-YEAR LOW CRIME RATE

## PERSON CRIMES



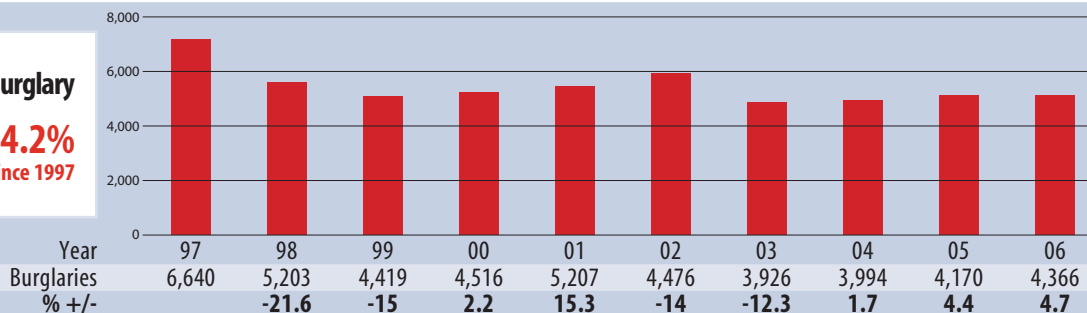
### Robbery

Reduced **28.5%**  
since 1997



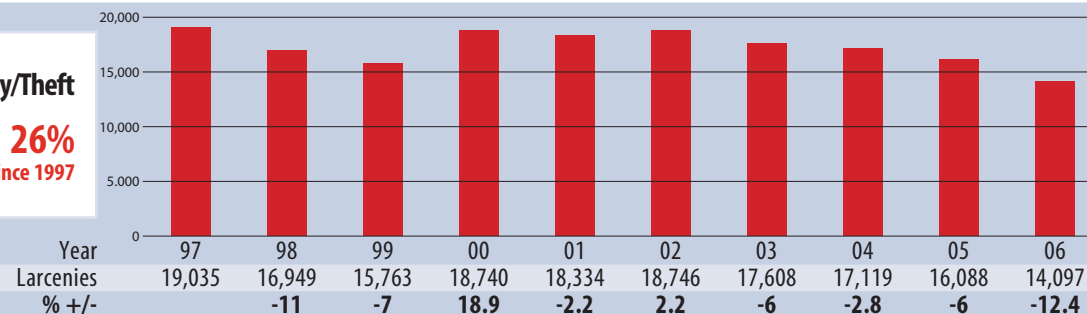
### Burglary

Reduced **34.2%**  
since 1997



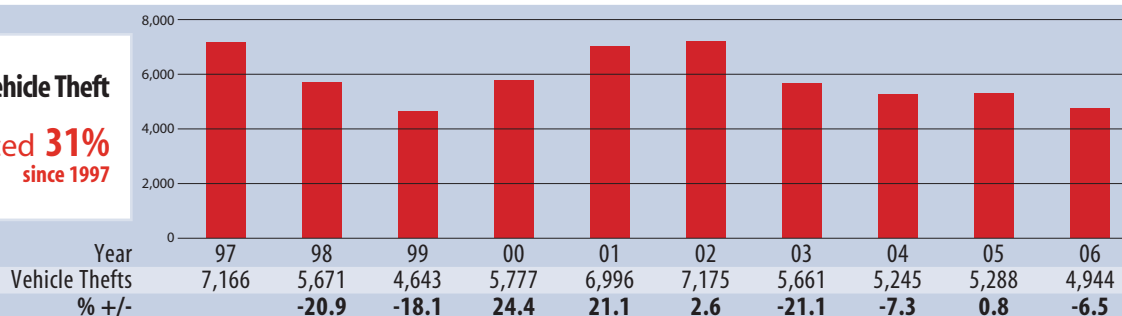
### Larceny/Theft

Reduced **26%**  
since 1997



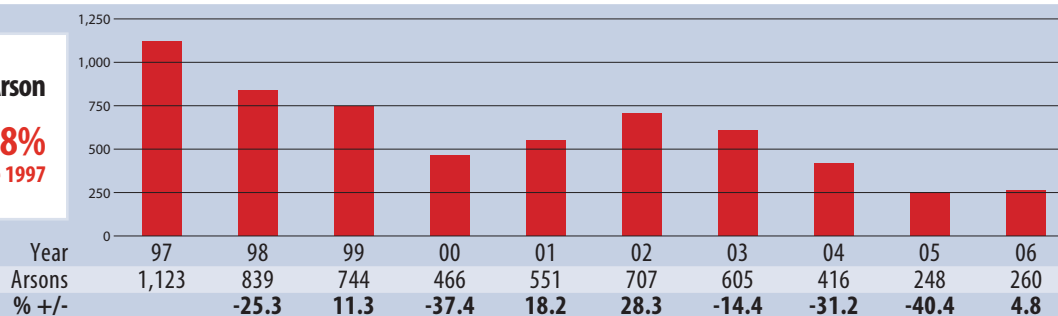
### Motor Vehicle Theft

Reduced **31%**  
since 1997



### Arson

Reduced **76.8%**  
since 1997



# Administrative Services Division



*This division ensures the highest levels of professionalism and accountability of the Fresno Police Department through hiring practices, fiscal responsibility and professional standards.*



## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The citizens of Fresno demand and deserve the highest levels of professionalism and accountability in their police department. To meet this goal, the Administrative Services Division is responsible for **hiring the very best** police officers, dispatchers and other civilian personnel. New employees are then trained to be fully effective in their roles to serve and protect the citizens of the City of Fresno. Training will continue throughout their careers to ensure personnel are current on the best practices in law enforcement.

A key component of the Police Department is **fiscal responsibility**. Our Business Office personnel work tirelessly to make certain we get the most value out of every taxpayer dollar we receive, while maintaining full accountability for all money spent. The division pursues grants from a variety of sources to help augment our services to the community, while holding down the financial impact to the City of Fresno general fund.

**Internal audits** of all components of the Police Department are coordinated by the Professional Standards Unit to ensure overall effective and timely service to the community, while adhering to the highest industry standards of law enforcement.



**Deputy Chief Roger Enmark**

**Administrative Services Division Commander**





## CRIME VIEW UNIT

The Fresno Police Department adopted the “**smart policing**” philosophy to address crime within our community, with the goal of more rapidly identifying and responding to criminal activity. Chief Dyer created the Crime View Unit in May 2006 to assist in accomplishing this goal.

**Crime analysts** assigned to the unit provide strategic, tactical and administrative analysis to crime activity occurring within the City of Fresno. This analysis provides the Department with valuable information to aid in the identification of crime spikes, trends and clusters aimed at the identification and arrest of those responsible. The unit also completes administrative reports such as “Stat Trak,” a weekly status update provided by the Chief of Police to the Mayor, Council and City Manager.

**Crime maps** produced on a daily basis identify “hot spots” where crimes are occurring within the city. This information is provided to officers daily, giving them a powerful tool in addressing active crime areas and maintaining a Department-wide focus on crime.

One of the newest and most important functions of the Crime View Unit is to coordinate **monthly meetings** with Command Staff, district personnel and members assigned to other investigative units, such as the Street Violence Bureau, Special Units Bureau and the Family Justice Bureau. This meeting, modeled after similar successful programs found in New York, Los Angeles and Baltimore, allows for an open exchange of crime-related information impacting our community.

The monthly “Crime View” meetings, chaired by Chief Dyer, are intended to keep all Department personnel focused on impacting crime throughout the city with an emphasis on accountability. Outside law enforcement agencies, members from the District Attorney’s Office, County Probation and State Parole are invited to attend the meetings to foster a cooperative, unified approach to best address crime and disorder within the community.

The Crime View philosophy has served as a catalyst in reducing crime by providing **timely intelligence information** and reinforcing to all members of the Department their responsibility for impacting criminal activity taking place within our city.

✓  
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*The Crime View Unit  
 serves as a resource to  
 Department personnel by  
 providing timely and  
 accurate intelligence  
 regarding crime activity to  
 allow the Department to  
 more effectively impact  
 criminal activity.”*



## VIDEO POLICING

At the direction of Mayor Alan Autry and working directly with Chief Dyer, the Fresno Police Department began a historic project to help make Fresno safer by using **state of the art video technology**, a major component of our “smart policing” efforts.

The Department’s video policing concept merges live monitoring with our Communications Center so cameras **may be used on demand** when: (1) a call for service occurs in a monitored area, (2) suspicious activity or a crime in progress is observed and personnel can promptly dispatch a unit to that location, or (3) an alarm is triggered from a camera that has been set at a critical location to alert police personnel.

The Video Policing plan called for up to 75 cameras installed in the first year. The first cameras are already up and running in Manchester Center and Roeding Park. School sites, River Park, Fashion Fair shopping centers and other **heavily populated commercial areas** are likely locations for cameras when necessary. Cameras will also be placed in neighborhoods to make them safer and at the same time, respecting the privacy rights of residents. This will be accomplished through technology such as “window blanking” – a feature that can restrict a camera’s ability to “see” in locations such as windows of a private residence. Private businesses will also be brought on-line to make our commercial establishments safer.

In our ongoing efforts to remain transparent with our camera installations, our Video Policing project managers took the unprecedented step of inviting civil libertarians to provide input and contribute to the Video Policing Guidelines Manual. Our ultimate goal is to use technology to provide a safer community, while taking great care to ensure civil liberties and privacy rights of all citizens are protected.

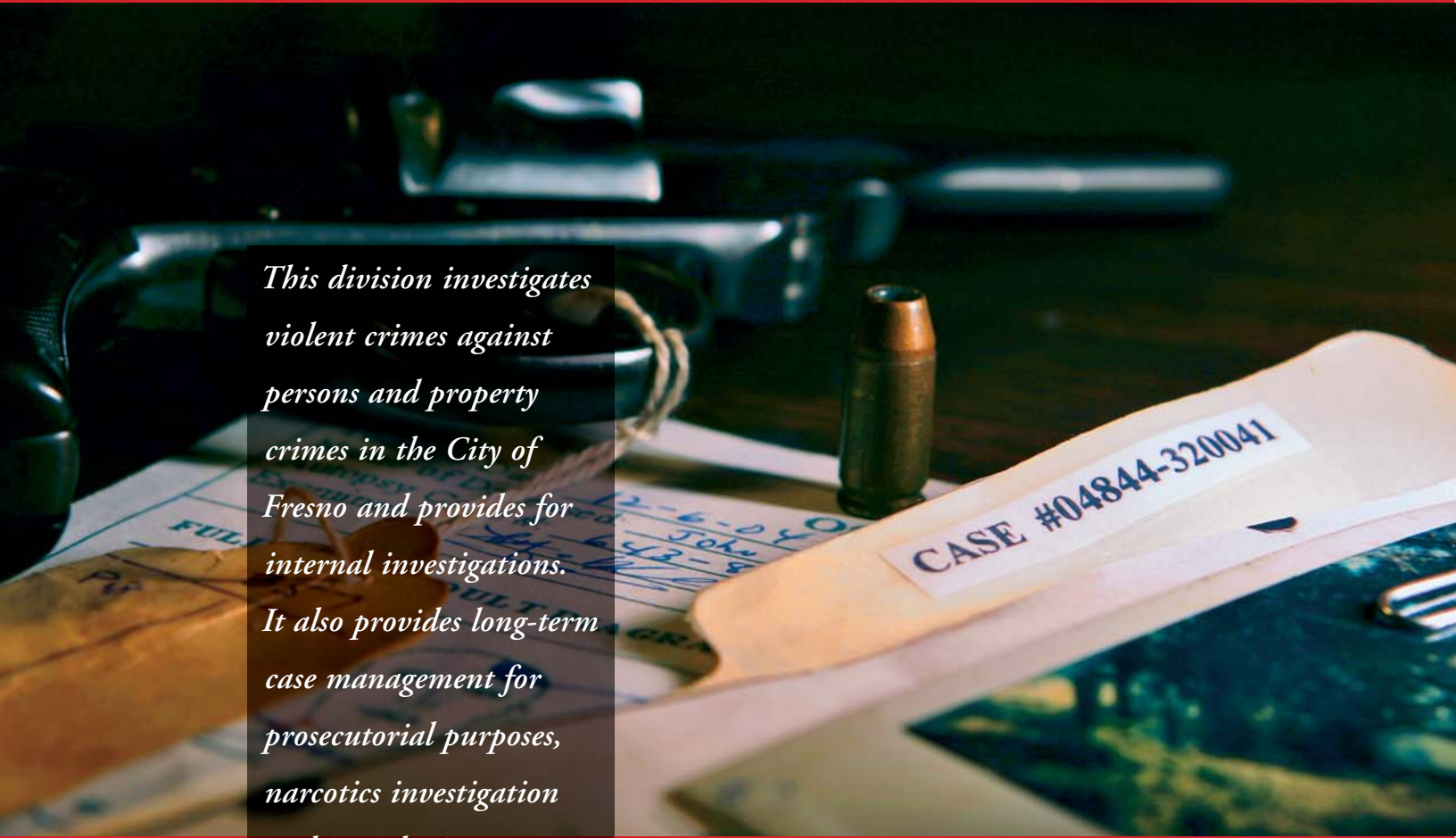


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# Investigative Services Division

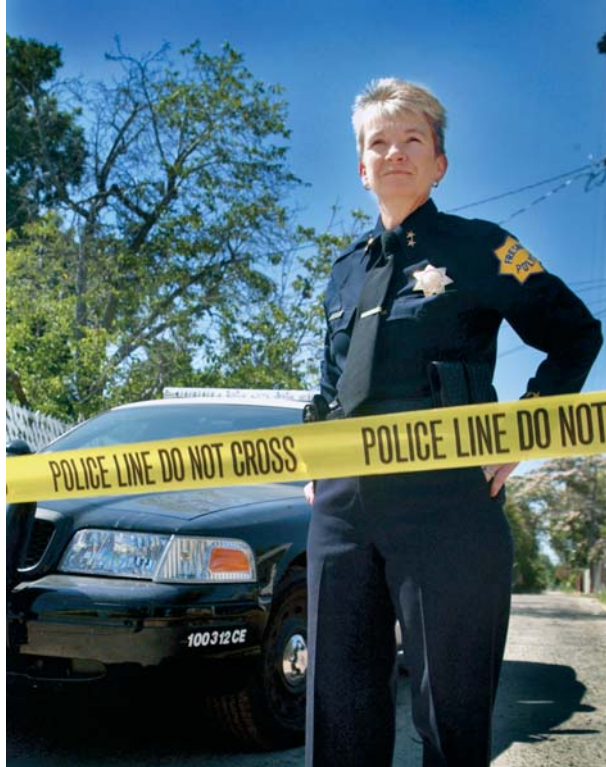


*This division investigates violent crimes against persons and property crimes in the City of Fresno and provides for internal investigations. It also provides long-term case management for prosecutorial purposes, narcotics investigation and interdiction and crime scene and evidence processing.*

## INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

This division is responsible for a wide variety of investigative services. Part of this division collects and examines evidence, another part interrogates homicide and robbery suspects, another segment works tirelessly to rid our city of gang activity while still another group works with the victims of sexual assault, child and elder abuse and missing persons. There are other detectives who handle major theft and fraud cases, auto theft rings and chop shops, narcotics crimes and anti-terrorism issues. The men and women of this division have worked hard to improve clearance rates and have helped tremendously in the Department's overall efforts to reduce crime in Fresno.

While a position in the Investigations Division can be very demanding, it is rewarding to meet the challenges involved and bring criminals to justice. Successful investigations help victims through their ordeal and continue to make Fresno a safer community.



**Deputy Chief Sharon Shaffer**

**Investigative Services Division Commander**

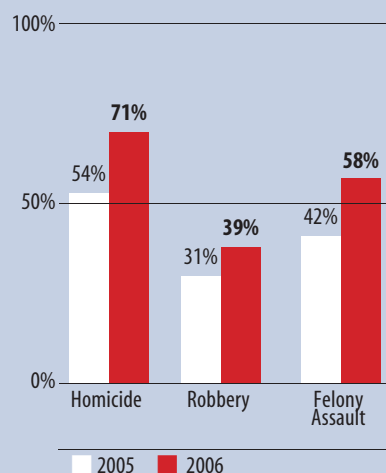
## STREET VIOLENCE BUREAU

The Street Violence Bureau is comprised of the Homicide Unit, the Robbery/Felony Assault Unit, the Night Detective Unit and the Tactical Team. Detectives in each of these units work closely to provide an immediate and coordinated response to violent crimes committed in our City. When a violent crime is committed, they work around the clock, pursuing all possible investigative leads to identify and locate those responsible.

**When a violent crime occurs**, the Night Detective Unit is usually the first investigative unit to respond to the scene. They begin an immediate investigation and coordinate the initial response of other units (Homicide, Robbery, etc.). As leads are developed, the information is immediately and constantly shared with all units, which allows joint coordination of efforts to pursue additional leads and accelerate the pace of the investigation. When a suspect is identified, the Tactical Team (specializing in surveillance techniques and tactics) works to quickly apprehend the suspect.

Rapid paced, coordinated investigation has proven to be the key to solving violent crimes. This team approach has led to dramatic increases in clearance rates for homicide, robbery and felony assault cases.

### Clearance Rates: 2006



NOTE: Clearance rates for Robbery and Felony Assault differ slightly from UCR reporting, as cases assigned to SVB are commercial robberies, residential robberies, vehicle robberies, shootings, and stabbings.



## COLD CASE FILES

**A single drop of blood**, a single strand of hair...that may be all it takes to put a violent offender behind bars for life. Popular television shows such as “CSI” showcase highly trained investigators using tiny fragments of evidence to identify the suspect; our Department does the same. Using a 2005 National Institute of Justice grant, Fresno Police Department created a “Cold Case” unit with 3 detectives assigned to solve previously “unsolvable” homicide and sexual assault cases. Detectives review cases, often years old, and search for DNA evidence to use to identify a previously unknown suspect. Evidence is sent to Fresno’s Department of Justice Regional Crime Lab and compared with the FBI’s Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), helping to identify suspects. Those who thought they had gotten away with a sexual assault or murder can no longer rest easy- the smallest amount of evidence can now bring them to justice.

In 2006, **Sexual Assault** Cold Case Detectives reviewed 147 open cases, sent 11 to the Department of Justice laboratory, issued 5 arrest warrants based on DNA evidence and arrested 4 suspects. In 2002, an unknown suspect forcibly entered a residence and raped a 15-year-old girl. For 4 years, the case had no leads. In February 2006, DNA identified a suspect serving a sentence for violation of the sexual predator registration law in Avenal State Prison. After a Cold Case detective obtained a saliva sample, the individual was arrested and charged with forcible rape, and sentenced to 50 years-to-life.

*The smallest amount  
of evidence can now  
bring them to justice.*

**Homicide** Cold Case Detectives reviewed 76 unsolved cases, identified 27 suspects with DNA evidence and matched 2 suspects in the CODIS (the FBI Laboratory’s Combined DNA Index System).





## A TRANSPARENT AGENCY

A police department cannot be effective without the trust and support of the community it serves. While police officers have much power granted to them by the community, they also have an absolute responsibility placed upon them to ensure they remain deserving of the public's trust and confidence. The people in our community expect the very best and deserve nothing less. Transparency dictates we be as open as possible about our actions regarding uses of force to control violators, the demographics of the people we stop for traffic violations, our crime fighting efforts and our internal affairs investigations and disciplinary outcomes. Therefore, we take seriously all complaints and concerns voiced to us by the community. We also encourage our own personnel to address any potential misconduct or deficiencies to their superiors which can result in an internally-generated investigation.

In addition to numerous internal controls and audit processes, we also strive to build closer connections and therefore greater transparency with the community through a variety of outreach and educational programs. A few of these programs are discussed in greater detail elsewhere in this report, such as the Police Activities League, Life Skills training for youth, the Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative and volunteering opportunities. In addition to these programs, the Department has conducted the Citizen's Police Academy for many years, including a Spanish speaking version. Chief Dyer meets regularly with the Chief's Advisory Board which is made up of a wide diversity of community representatives. We participate in a considerable number of on going public forum meetings in all of the policing districts. Additionally, the Department makes much of its information available online, to include current use of force reports called "reportable response to resistance," traffic stop demographic data, monthly crime reports showing increases and or decreases in many crime categories and last year's Annual Report. Please visit our web site at [www.fresno.gov/fresnopolice](http://www.fresno.gov/fresnopolice) for a wide range of data, reports, useful forms and other interesting information about our agency.

## CRIME SCENE BUREAU

The Crime Scene Bureau provides specialized crime scene investigation and forensic support services 24 hours a day, 7 days every week. Services include homicide scene processing, evidence collection, blood and DNA sample collection, ballistics, scene diagrams, prisoner processing and identification, photo processing, mug shots and entry of latent prints into local, state and federal fingerprint databases.

In 2006, Crime Scene Technicians processed and collected evidence at over 8,500 crime scenes. A record 1,634 criminal suspects were identified with fingerprints. Historically, every arrest associated with a database "hit" resulted in solving another 3-4 cases with suspect identifications.

## Internal Affairs Investigations: 2005-06

Investigations	2005	2006
Total number of Investigations initiated	205	206
Complaints received from citizens	109	110
Internally-generated Investigations	96	96
<b>Disciplinary Actions</b>		
Terminations	5	4
Resignations/Retirements in Lieu of Discipline	4	4
Discipline Held in Abeyance in Lieu of Termination	0	0
Demotion	1	1
Suspensions	24	26
Repair Payments	0	0
Fines	7	6
Letters of Reprimand	17	20

**The INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU seeks to effectively and efficiently investigate allegations of misconduct by members of the Fresno Police Department, and to conduct all investigations in a fair and unbiased manner. The Bureau's goal is to search for the truth in a fair and timely manner in all cases.**





## THE WAR ON DRUGS

**The Special Investigations Bureau** includes the Major Narcotics Unit, VICE/Intelligence Unit, Special Operations Task Force, High Intensity Drug Traffic Areas (HIDTA) Task Force and the Fresno Methamphetamine Task Force.

**The Major Narcotics Unit** targets narcotics trafficking in our community, ranging from street level drug dealers to million dollar drug ring operations. In 2006, the Major Narcotics Unit made record seizures of drugs and assets. They arrested 176 drug dealers, seized 135 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, 127 pounds of cocaine, 8 pounds of heroin and assisted in the seizure of 1,678 pounds of marijuana. All totaled, the street value of these seizures was approximately \$9,416,000. In addition to ridding our community of these dangerous drugs, officers removed 57 guns from the streets and seized more than \$1,000,000 in assets to be used in the continuing war on drugs.



*“Walter Orr spent more than a decade dealing drugs in our city. His arrest should send a clear message to other dealers that we are watching and no one is untouchable.”*

— Chief Jerry Dyer

**The Special Operations Task Force** (SOTF) is a unit comprised of Fresno Police Department detectives and Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) agents. Their sole purpose is to target mid-level narcotics traffickers who often times go undetected. During the past year, SOTF working with assistance from Major Narcotics, DEA, HIDTA, ATF and the U.S. Attorney’s Office, conducted a major investigation culminating in the dismantling of a drug ring that had been operating in West Fresno for many years. The head of the operation, Walter Orr, was considered by many to be “untouchable” prior to this case. He, and more than a dozen other street level narcotic dealers, were arrested and charged with numerous counts of drug trafficking and sales.

Walter Orr was known to the Fresno Police Major Narcotics Unit as a major drug dealer, dealing both powder

caught, he liked to boast that he and his drug trafficking organization were “untouchable.”

All suspects face various federal narcotics charges. One suspect, Roy Hempstead, remains at large.

on borrowed time and now that time is up.”

### The Untouchables: Operation “00”

and rock cocaine at the ounce, multi-ounce and kilo levels. He received 3-4 kilos at least once a month. Orr sold all over the Central Valley, but focused in Fresno. Customers included members and associates of a Fresno African American street gang. Sources confirmed he had been dealing cocaine for over a decade. Because he had never been

Orr and his chief assistant, Latasha Walton, were arrested on August 26, 2006 in Tulare County in possession of three kilos of cocaine and a handgun. Other suspects arrested: Tremayne Beard, Bernice Bentley, Rayquan Brown, Demar Duncan, Robert Hernandez, Kenneth Johnson, Michael King, William Strong and Sunmler Townsend.

Chief Dyer stated, “The arrest of Walter Orr and...his associates or customers is bad news for those who were dependent on Orr for their narcotics.” DEA Special Agent in Charge Javier F. Peña observed that “Drug dealers live with the knowledge that they will ‘pay now or pay later.’ It appears that Mr. Orr will pay us now, putting an end to more than a decade of drug trafficking activities...He’s been living free

Participants in Operation 00: Fresno Police Department (Major Narcotics Unit, Traffic Safety Bureau, DCST, Police Vice/Intelligence Units), MAGEC, Fresno Meth Task Force, HIDTA Intelligence Center, Fresno County District Attorney’s Office, Kings County Narcotics Task Force, Madera Gang Enforcement Team, California Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, California State Parole, California Highway Patrol, U.S. Attorney’s Office- Eastern District, Drug Enforcement Agency and U.S. Marshall’s Office.

Members of the **Fresno Methamphetamine Task Force** (FMTF) were presented the Distinguished Service Award on January 19, 2006, by the National Drug Czar, John P. Walters, in Washington, DC. The citation commended the investigators for their work in Operation “Green Speaker”, which resulted in 41 felony indictments and the seizure of over 5,300 pounds of marijuana and other drugs, over \$70,000 in cash, 25 firearms and over \$3,000,000 in real estate.

## OPERATION BULLDOG

**The most notorious gang in Fresno is the “Bulldog” criminal street gang.** In 1986, the gang adopted the name “Bulldog” from Fresno State University’s sports program. To date, Bulldogs have grown to become Fresno’s largest and most violent gang. The predominantly Latino gang’s 4,000-plus documented members and 6,000 “wanna-be’s” and associates, wear red Fresno State clothing as their trademark. The youngest recorded validated Bulldog gang member is 7 years old.

Bulldogs have evolved into a very violent, bold and unpredictable criminal street gang, wreaking unprecedented havoc upon the city for two decades. They have committed aggravated assaults, take-over style robberies, gang rapes, kidnappings and torture murders. Last July, a Bulldog gang member shot Fresno police officer Brian Nieto, nearly killing him. The fear associated with their crimes serves to intimidate honest, hard working citizens and has allowed Bulldogs to take ownership of many Fresno neighborhoods.

In November 2006, Chief Jerry Dyer established the goal of eliminating the Bulldog gang from Fresno as a critical priority. A key component toward accomplishing the goal was the creation of the Bulldog Tactical Team that focuses solely on tracking down wanted Bulldog gang members. However, Chief Dyer knew it would take more than the creation of a new tactical unit to eliminate the Bulldog gang.

Therefore, all Department personnel were included in the plan. In the Patrol Division and Traffic Bureau alone, more than 500 officers work the streets targeting “Bulldogs.” Collectively, these Department members and others, such as canine officers, detectives and narcotics investigators have committed themselves to the Department’s singleness of purpose in eliminating the Bulldog gang. Criminal cases with Bulldog gang members are given the highest priority by the Department’s investigative and tactical units for follow up work and prosecution. As a result, the Department has created a very uncomfortable environment for Bulldogs in Fresno who are no longer able to roam the streets with anonymity, committing random acts of violence.

The results have been dramatic: crime has fallen significantly. Bulldog gang members no longer brazenly bark like dogs at officers and citizens (Bulldog gang trademark) and are now either covering up gang attire and tattoos or denying gang affiliation altogether.



*Operation Bulldog  
was designed to eliminate  
the Bulldog Gang from the  
City of Fresno.*







## MAYOR'S GANG PREVENTION INITIATIVE

Chief Dyer and Mayor Autry both knew the elimination of the Bulldogs and the reduction of gang violence could not come through suppression alone. In 2006, at Mayor Autry's direction, a bold plan to "give gang members a way out" was born – the Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative. The MGPI is a comprehensive plan to address the gang problem from multiple perspectives. It is comprised of five core components: Prevention, Intervention, Suppression, Rehabilitation and Economic Development.

The **prevention** component utilizes preemptive strategies such as participation in the Police Activities League, involvement in the Life Skills program, mentoring and community gang awareness presentations as tools to discourage participation in the gang lifestyle.

The **intervention** component focuses on active gang members and/or associates. This process provides individuals with the opportunity to completely leave the gang lifestyle. The process begins with a referral into the program. Referrals can come from school officials, law enforcement officers, community-based organizations or self-referrals from the individuals. All referrals are entered into a secure database that is maintained by the MGPI staff. If the individual has outstanding warrants or open cases in the judicial system, he or she is removed from the program and referred to the appropriate jurisdiction (i.e., District Attorney, U.S. Attorney, etc.) for case clearance.

If the individual does not have any warrants or open cases, he or she is sent to a clinician for a comprehensive needs assessment. The needs assessment is designed to identify any areas that could prevent the individual from obtaining and retaining employment. Examples of certain needs are substance abuse, anger management issues, deficient literacy, gang related tattoos (need for tattoo removal), etc. Once the individual's needs are identified, he or she is introduced to the appropriate service provider and the prescriptive treatment is administered. The costs for services are covered by the Initiative, with no out-of-pocket expense to the participant.



The **suppression** component is the enforcement arm of the process. This stage utilizes the singleness of purpose of the Bulldog Tactical Team, the Multi Agency Gang Enforcement Consortium (MAGEC), the District Crime Suppression Teams, Parole and Probation personnel and patrol officers to address gang-related problems. In just a couple of months, the intense focus on the Bulldog gang has resulted in arrests of gang members.

The **rehabilitation** component focuses on stabilizing the home environment for those individuals who are working towards leaving the gang lifestyle. This process involves conducting assessments of the gang member (or associate's) home, and determining what needs his/her immediate family have to prevent the gang member or associate from returning to the gang lifestyle. The immediate family members may also be clinically assessed and provided with the same services as the gang member or associate. This aspect of the program is referred to as the "Strengthening Neighborhoods" phase.

The final component is **economic development**. This process focuses on assisting the former gang member or associate in obtaining meaningful employment. The MGPI has contracted with several local businesses to provide employment opportunities to individuals who successfully complete the intervention phase of the program.

The MGPI program is one of the most comprehensive gang eradication programs in the State of California. The MGPI staff has been requested by several law enforcement agencies throughout California to assist in the creation of similar programs in their respective jurisdictions.



*The Mayor's Gang  
Prevention Initiative  
is a comprehensive plan  
to address the gang problem  
from multiple perspectives.*



# Patrol Division



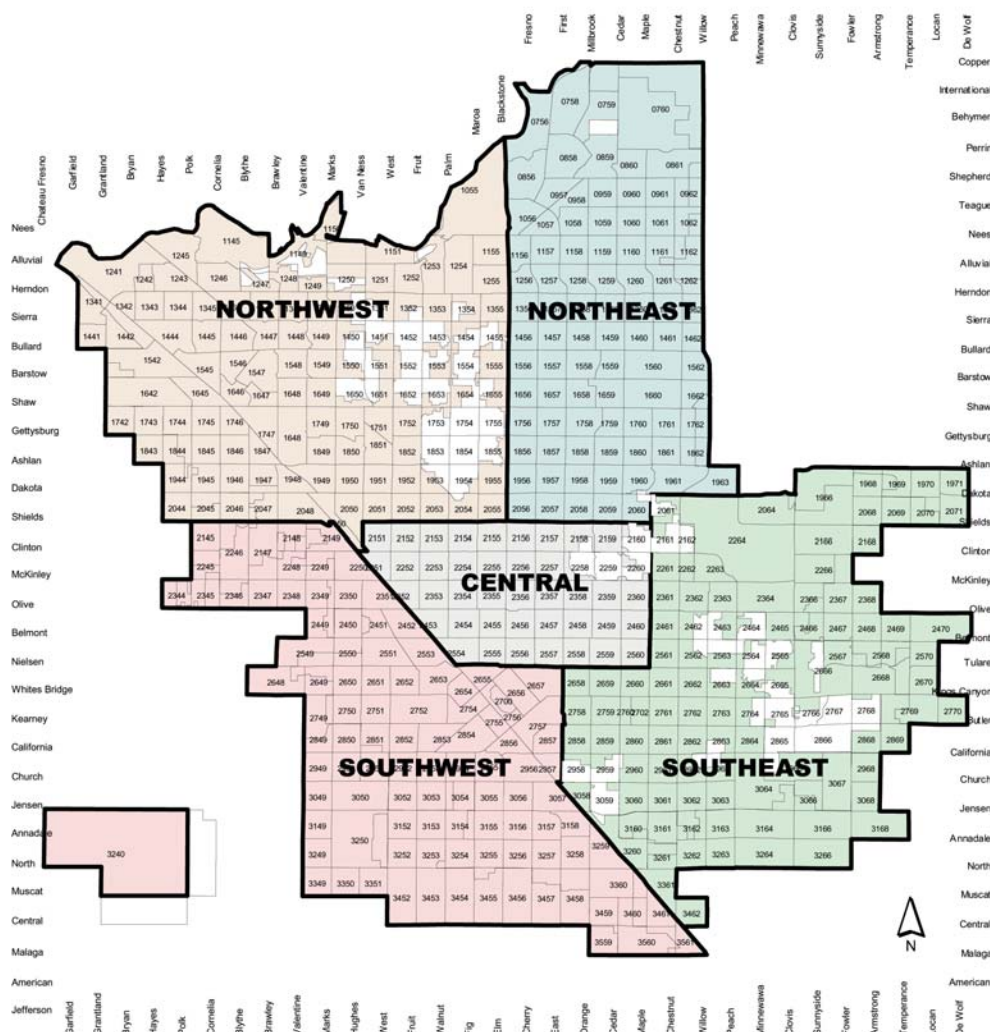
*The Patrol Division is committed to the prompt response to life threatening crimes in progress and thorough, detailed preliminary criminal investigations. Our proactive resources are dedicated to crime prevention through deployment specifically targeting gangs, drug offenders and parole violators. Through these efforts, Fresno citizens are provided with an optimal sense of safety.*



*The backbone of each Policing District is made up of the patrol officers assigned to the area. Each officer is assigned a “Sector” within the District, and is responsible for identifying crime trends and developing solutions to them. They work with the citizens in order to bring the community and the Police Department closer together in the fight against crime.*

Deputy Chief Robert Nevarez

Patrol Division Commander







**Captain Dennis Bridges**  
Central Policing District Commander

## THE CENTRAL POLICING DISTRICT

**Central's Tower District** is known for the annual Mardi Gras Parade and Fat Tuesday celebration each year. Although both events brought significant activity to the Tower District, no significant violence occurred at either event in 2006, due largely to the proactive stance taken early in the evening. Over 170 law enforcement personnel were deployed in the Tower District on Fat Tuesday to ensure a safe event.

**Neighborhoods:** Central District personnel were involved in over 25 neighborhood events in 2006. Two "Farewell to the Neighborhood Gang" parties symbolized the taking back of the neighborhood by law abiding residents, and allowed neighbors to better get to know each other. In July, Central District personnel and neighbors literally took over McKenzie and Eighth Street with kids' activities, food and live music. In September, over 400 neighbors gathered at Radio Park for another party. This event was broadcast live on a local radio station. On August 1, Central hosted approximately 100 neighbors for "National Night Out" at the Broadway Station.

*The Central Policing District is Fresno's historic area, containing many of the city's oldest homes, the Tower Theater, Fresno's art district, Fresno City College and Community Hospital.*

**Focused policing** concentrates on "hot spots" (areas with high numbers of recent crimes) and "hot people" (gang members, parole violators, drug users, at-large individuals). Throughout 2006, Central Problem Oriented Policing (POP) officers issued "Gang House Warning Notices" to owners/occupants of residences occupied or frequented by gang members. This practice holds owners accountable for activities going on at their properties, and has been effective for abating several gang houses and apartments in the Central District.





## THE SOUTHEAST POLICING DISTRICT

**Neighborhoods:** Block Party season was very busy for the Southeast District. Events at Melody Park, South Lind Avenue, the Ranchwood Condos, Stoneybrook Apartments, Sycamore Heights Apartments, Torey Ridge Apartments and Calwa Elementary School were well-attended. The District partnered with churches in the Peach and Olive area. The “National Night Out” block party was held at Pilibos Park, and residents from all the surrounding apartments were invited to join in. The season ended with several Halloween/ Harvest Festival events: a Melody Park event, a street event with Fresno Barrios Unidos and street parties at local churches.

**Cruise Control** is a partnership with classic car clubs and the Fresno Police Department. Cruise Control provides a controlled venue for club members to cruise Kings Canyon Boulevard on Sunday nights from 6 to 10 PM and showcase their vehicles. Members of the various car clubs monitor the crowds that gather along Kings Canyon Boulevard, and notify Fresno Police Department regarding any problems observed along the routes.

**The Big Fresno Fair** ran October 4-15. Over 500,000 people attended, with more than 500 Fresno Police Department personnel assigned. The Fresno County Sheriff's Department, California State Parole, Fresno County Probation, California Highway Patrol, California Alcoholic Beverage Control and MAGEC provided support. No major incidents were reported during the Fair's run.

The 2006-07 **Hmong New Year Celebration** was held at the fairgrounds December 26 to January 1, 2007. No major crimes or disturbances took place during the celebration. The total 7-day paid attendance for the celebration was 94,479. Nearly 300 officers helped maintain order for the event.



**Captain Pat Farmer**

**Southeast Policing District Commander**

**(Since promoted to Deputy Chief)**

*The Southeast Policing District is composed of some of the most historic neighborhoods in Fresno.*

*Additionally record numbers of new homes were built in its eastern area during 2006.*

*Southeast Fresno is one of the most affordable and culturally diverse areas in the City.*





**Captain Greg Garner**

**Southwest Policing District Commander**

*Commonly referred to as the “West Side,” the Southwest District also includes downtown Fresno, many federal, state and county government facilities, Chukchansi Park, the Metropolitan Museum and the Chaffee Zoo.*

## THE SOUTHWEST POLICING DISTRICT

**Downtown Policing:** Downtown Fresno has a weekday population of almost 50,000. The Downtown Policing (Bike) Unit responded to over 18,000 calls for service generated in the Downtown and Chinatown areas in 2006, and provided policing for over 150 events (protests, organized runs, parades, marches, baseball games, concerts, soccer games, demonstrations and dignitary protection). The crime rate in the Downtown and Chinatown areas continues to be one of the lowest in the City, due in great part to the Downtown Policing Unit.

### Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life

The Fresno Police Department relies heavily upon community involvement. During the last four years, the Southwest District has worked with faith-based and community-oriented groups to organize community outreach functions, emphasizing personal responsibility and accountability, making this a model, award-winning project. The events provide gang/drug/alcohol-free evening activities, and allow faith-based groups to spread their messages of alternatives to criminal life.

**The District Crime Suppression Team** eliminates gangs, drugs and parole violators from the Southwest District. In 2006, DCST seized over 1½ pounds of cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin, over 1½ pounds of marijuana and 39 weapons. With community assistance, DCST made almost 1,200 felony arrests.





## THE NORTHEAST POLICING DISTRICT

**Operation Christmas Presence** ran from November 24 to December 24. This annual operation increases citizen safety of shoppers at local retailers by maintaining a uniformed presence at these locations. The shopping locations targeted included River Park Center, Fashion Fair Mall, Manchester Center and Fig Garden Village. The operation consisted of approximately 185 personnel, including volunteers, Traffic officers, the Downtown Policing Unit, the Mounted Unit, Skywatch, HEAT and assistance from California Highway Patrol and Fresno Sheriffs Department.

**Crime Reduction:** The Northeast District impacted crime by disseminating timely crime data and responding to crime and crime trends by involving district officers and detectives, Reserve Officers, Community Service Officers, Citizens On Patrol volunteers and the community. The District's efforts resulted in a 26.4% reduction in Violent Crime, and a 13.1% reduction in Property Crime, resulting in an overall reduction of 14.3% in Part I Crimes.

**Neighborhoods:** The Northeast District participated in or hosted five block parties: the Annual Fresno Police & Neighborhood Watch Fundraiser at Carey Park, and parties at the Whispering Woods Apartment complex, the Manchester neighborhood, at Granny Park in the Amber Way neighborhood and the Fresno Islamic Cultural Center's annual block party. The District partnered with Target Stores for a National Night Out party at Target's Blackstone/Bullard location. Northeast's Crime Prevention efforts included participation in approximately 92 events: Neighborhood Watch meetings, crime prevention meetings with churches, schools and banks, meetings to promote personal safety and child safety, school carnivals, home inspections, block parties, school events and the Annual Christmas Toy Giveaway at Granny Park.



**Captain Lydia Carrasco**

**Northeast Policing District Commander**

*The Northeast District includes California State University Fresno, the Save Mart Center, Woodward Park, and Fresno's major shopping areas: Manchester Mall, Fashion Fair Mall, and River Park Center.*







**Captain Keith Foster**  
**Northwest Policing District Commander**  
 (Since promoted to Deputy Chief)

*The Northwest Policing District is home to approximately 130,000 people. It includes high-traffic areas such as the Blackstone strip, the new Van Ness extension and the Fig Garden Shopping Center. It has also seen a phenomenal increase in residential construction west of Freeway 99.*

## THE NORTHWEST POLICING DISTRICT

**Heros:** On December 24, 2006, while patrolling the 2100 block of West Princeton, Officers Fortune and Lee observed an apartment fire. Citizens told the officers they believed someone was inside the apartment. After requesting assistance, the officers attempted to enter the apartment, but all doors were locked and could not be kicked open. The apartment's windows had wrought-iron bars. After Officers Miranda and Fowler arrived, they removed an air conditioning unit attached to a window, bent several bars and broke the window to gain entry. In spite of the fire and heavy smoke, Officer Miranda managed to reach inside and locate an unconscious female victim. With citizen assistance, the officers removed the victim from the apartment and she was transported to the hospital with severe burns. Medical personnel confirmed that without the assistance of the officers and the citizen, the victim would have died.

**Problem Oriented Police Officers adopted a family** (single mother of five) from the Northwest District for Christmas. The officers provided the family with a Christmas tree and gifts.

**Preventing crime is an important part of our crime-fighting efforts.** In 2006, Community Service Officers assigned to crime prevention, helped start 35 Neighborhood Watch Groups, made 15 Safety Presentations to adult groups and attended 26 community events. They performed 22 home and business security inspections and handed out free gun locks at several locations. They also worked with young people, holding our first Pumpkin Carving Contest, participated in our District's Toys for Tots Campaign and gave tours of Police Headquarters to 10 groups of Scouts and school children.



## TRAFFIC SAFETY BUREAU

Since 2002, traffic fatalities in Fresno have dropped more than 28% and injury collisions are down over 24%. By promoting a well-rounded traffic safety education program, embracing a philosophy of personal responsibility and focusing on the worst offenders, Fresno is changing its driving habits. Because of these changes, Fresno has seen these reductions since 2002:

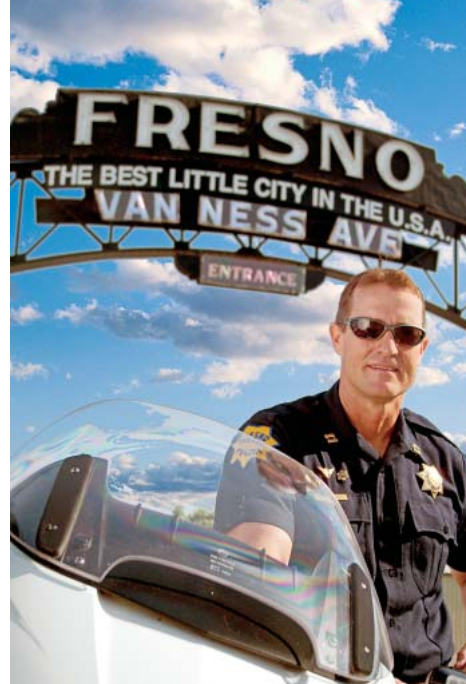
- 53 fatalities.
- 1,447 fewer people were transported to the hospital with a serious injury.
- Traffic citations rose more than 300%.
- Collisions dropped for the fifth year in a row.
- Traffic officers issued almost 10% fewer tickets in 2006.

### National Recognition in 2006:

- *USA Today* (11/8/06) as the “toughest city in the nation on drunken drivers.”
- *NBC Nightly News* on 11/22/06 in “What Works,” a series profiling innovative and effective business and government programs.
- Filmed for an upcoming program on *Court TV*.

### Awards in 2006:

- California Law Enforcement Challenge: **First Place for Overall Traffic Safety Award** (500-1,000 sworn officers) recognized the Department’s efforts in speed enforcement, DUI enforcement, occupant protection, child passenger safety, underage drinking and traffic safety educational efforts.
- The **Office of Traffic Safety Child Passenger Safety Special Award** competing against all agencies.
- Traffic Officer Jason Musser received the 2005 **Office of Traffic Safety Excellence in Traffic Safety Award**, 1 of 15 officers statewide to receive this honor and is the only Valley recipient.
- For the first time, Fresno Police Department received the **Mothers Against Drunk Driving Outstanding Law Enforcement Agency Award**. This annual award is presented to only one law enforcement agency nation-wide recognizing that agency’s dedication to reducing DUI collisions.



Captain Andy Hall

Traffic Safety Bureau Commander

*The Traffic Safety Bureau responds to crime and traffic problems, assists all citizens and generates voluntary compliance to traffic laws and regulations. Since 2002: Traffic Fatalities are down 28.8%, Injury/Fatal Collisions are down by 24.4%, Seat Belt Compliance in Fresno is 94% compared to US average of 84%.*



# Patrol Support Division



*This division provides support to the Fresno Police Department in specific areas of law enforcement expertise, specialized services and equipment. This division oversees records and communications, provides employee assistance programs and youth services and maintains programs and initiatives that are necessary outside normal day-to-day operations, such as SWAT, Homeland Security or bomb disposal.*



## COMMUNICATION CENTER

The Communications Center or “Dispatch” received 245, 420 “911” calls and 361,275 non-emergency calls, for a total of 606,695 calls in 2006. That is an average of 1,217 calls per day.

**Our job is responding to YOU.** Whether you call to report an emergency or not, we will respond to you as quickly and effectively as possible. Calls that come into the Communication Center are immediately prioritized. Life threatening calls that involve a danger to someone’s personal safety are “Priority 0” calls. Since 2000, the Fresno Police Department has reduced Priority 0 response times from 10.67 minutes to 6.64 minutes in 2006. These gains were made despite the considerable increase in Fresno’s geographical size and population.

### “What happens when you call the police?”

When an emergency call comes to the Communication Center a call taker immediately starts gathering the information and notifies the dispatcher so that we can quickly dispatch police officers to the scene. The call taker then continues to gather information to better assess the situation. This updated information is then used to coordinate officers responding to the call. It is important to know that answering questions does not delay our response. The officers receive the call simultaneously on their police radio and in-car computer.

Non-emergency calls come into our Call Diversion Unit during weekdays from 8:15 am until 6:00 pm. This allows our dispatchers to focus on handling emergency calls while at the same time allowing us to respond more quickly to non-emergency calls. During non-business hours the non-emergency calls come into our Communications Center for appropriate distribution. The non-emergency phone number is 559 621-7000.

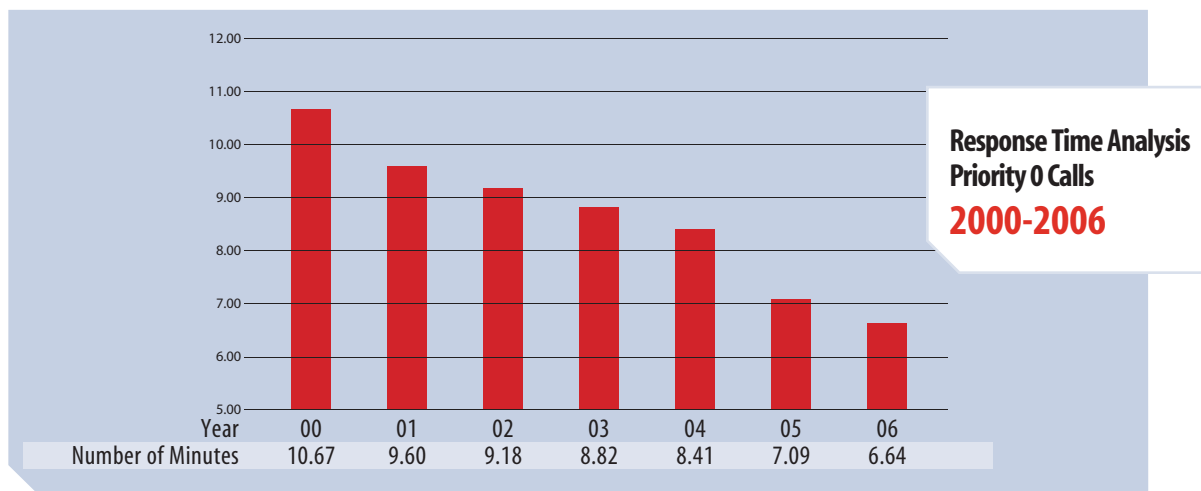
We also encourage the use of our online reporting system for non-emergency crimes that are no longer “in progress.” This feature is available 24 hours a day. The web address is [www.fresno.gov/fresnopolice](http://www.fresno.gov/fresnopolice).



Deputy Chief Rene Martin

Patrol Support Commander

Retired on January 2, 2007





## SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

**SWAT never stops training.** The Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) team is made up of officers that are specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to respond to critical incidents including but not limited to, hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts and other high-risk incidents. SWAT may be used to serve high-risk warrants, where public and officer safety issues compel the use of such a unit. Other SWAT team duties can include personal protection (dignitaries or persons in danger) and special assignments by the Chief of Police. SWAT has 26 tactical team members and six command van support crew officers.



*In 2006, SWAT was deployed 25 times, including high risk warrant service.*

## SKYWATCH

**2006 was the 10th anniversary** for Fresno Police Department's Air Support Unit ("Skywatch"). From its beginning in 1996 with three piston-driven helicopters, the unit has evolved to utilization of two American Eurocopter EC 120 turbine helicopters. Both are fitted with state-of-the-art airborne law enforcement equipment. Skywatch has also added a Cessna 206 airplane to assist with narcotics investigations, surveillance and homeland defense missions. This upgraded aircraft and equipment has allowed Skywatch to reduce response times, increase arrests, improve ground officers' safety and impact major crime.



*During 2006, Skywatch achieved an all time low in average response times of 40 seconds and increased "first-on-scene" arrivals to 57%.*



*K-9s were used in 285 narcotic searches, with 61 finds.*

## CANINE UNIT

Everyone knows man's best friend is a dog, so it is no surprise that a cop's best partner is a police K-9. K-9s locate evidence, explosives, narcotics and provide timely assistance to field officers handling high risk calls. They've also assisted in the capture of many dangerous felons. In 2006, the K-9 Unit won nearly 30 trophies in K-9 trials. The Fresno K-9 Unit is widely considered a premier team across the state.





## MOUNTED PATROL

The Fresno Police Department Mounted Patrol provides a unique form of law enforcement and crowd management, and is one of the most popular programs with the general public. The Mounted Patrol commonly works the Downtown Area, River Park Shopping Center, Roeding Park and Woodward Park.

In 2006, the Mounted Patrol worked special events and programs such as Operation Christmas Presence, Fresno Grizzlies baseball games, Mardi Gras in Central Fresno, the Veterans Day Parade and Downtown during the May 1st Immigration Rally.



## VOLUNTEERS

The Fresno Police Department is blessed with a nationally-recognized volunteer pool. Americorp, Community Emergency Response Team volunteers, Police Reserves, Citizens on Patrol (COPs), Police Activities League volunteers and Police Chaplains all contribute to Fresno's quality of life. These 881 volunteers donated 130,358 hours in 2006.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations.

Neighborhood Watch leaders Roz and Fred Clark work hard to recruit volunteers to participate in the Neighborhood Watch Program. Notifying the community of the group's presence is critical to reducing neighborhood crime.



*881 volunteers donated  
130,358 hours in 2006.*

## YOUTH SERVICES

**The Fresno Police Activities League (PAL)** provides after school activities for at-risk youth during the hours when many children are left unattended. PAL focuses on building confidence and self-esteem in community youth. Over 1,800 kids participate in PAL programs. PAL is located at Romain Park and the Mosqueda Community Center.

**Life Skills** is a research-validated program taught in Fresno Area Middle Schools. It reduces the risks of alcohol, tobacco, drug abuse and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote risky behaviors. Life Skills was taught to seventh grade students in 16 different middle schools in 2006 calendar year. The program reached 5,925 students at the following schools: Cooper, Kings Canyon, Yosemite, Tehipite, Tioga, Scandinavian, Tenaya, Terronez, Baird, Lawless, Computech, Ahwancee, Hamilton, West Fresno, Kastner and Fort Miller.





## GRAFFITI BUREAU

The novel approach to centralizing all of the resources is attracting interest from other cities and has produced some impressive results:

**Graffiti painted over:**

2005 = 1.9 million square feet

2006 = 2.5 million square feet

32% increase over previous year

**Graffiti arrests:**

2005 = 456

2006 = 611

34% increase over previous year

The City began a **new approach to fighting graffiti** during the latter part of 2006. In addition to five graffiti detectives investigating graffiti, 11 paint abatement crew members were moved from the Public Works Department to the Police Department. Additionally, two graffiti specific code enforcement officers were hired to combat graffiti on private businesses and residences. A Deputy City Attorney was assigned full time to prosecute graffiti vandalism cases. Finally, a coordinator was added to organize community organizations for the purpose of neighborhood beautification. These resources were all placed under the command of a lieutenant and they now comprise the Graffiti Bureau. Working with a singular focus, these resources enforce the law, prosecute offenders and hold violators accountable for their actions while encouraging community involvement to keep our city graffiti-free.





# FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT



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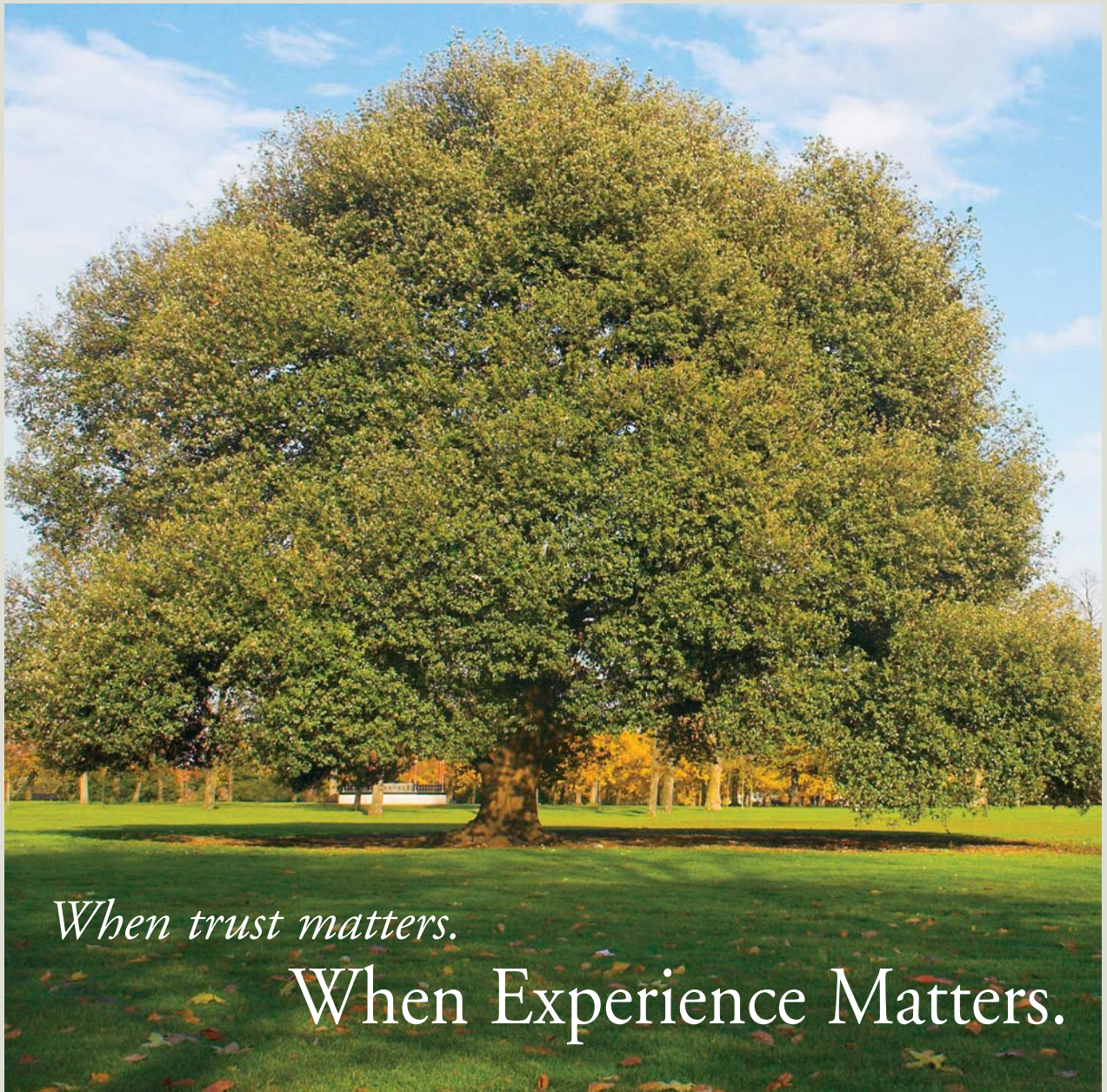


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